



Dear Stakeholder:

The Focus Four Hazards account for the majority of injuries and fatalities in the construction industry. To prevent future injuries and fatalities, OSHA, our state plans, consultation projects, and construction industry partners have initiated a "Focus Four Hazards" campaign in the Philadelphia Region's jurisdiction. The goal of this campaign is to raise awareness in the recognition, evaluation, and control of these hazards through the delivery of toolbox talks, onsite visits, and hands-on educational sessions for employers and employees.

Construction's "Fatal Four"

Out of **5,283** worker fatalities in private industry in calendar year 2023 ⁽¹⁾, **1,075** or 20% were in construction—that signifies that **one in five worker deaths were in construction.**

The leading causes of worker deaths on construction sites were Falls, followed by Caught-In/Between combined with Struck-Bys, and Electrocutions. These "Fatal Four" hazards were responsible for well over half (56%) of the [construction worker deaths in 2023, according to BLS reports](#) ⁽²⁾. Lastly, it is worth noting that 99 fatalities were due to drug or alcohol overdoses. ⁽²⁾

- **Falls** — 421 (39%) all levels
- **Struck-by & Caught-In/Between** – at least 111 (~10%) ⁽³⁾
- **Electrocutions** - 66 (6%)

Eliminating these Four Hazards would save a minimum of 598 workers' lives.

We appreciate your assistance and support with this campaign. We encourage you to provide feedback which will assist us in developing future efforts and evaluating our impact in the construction industry. All voluntary feedback may be sent to OSHA's designated Focus 4 campaign account at OSHA-Focus4-Region3@dol.gov. We thank you for your part in bringing awareness to these ***preventable incidents.***

(1) US DOL Bureau of Labor Statistics Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) – 2023 News Release <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/cfoi.pdf> (published 19 DEC 2024)
(2) BLS Table (Fatal occupational injuries by event or exposure for all fatal injuries and major private industry sector, all United States, 2023) Page <https://www.bls.gov/iif/fatal-injuries-tables/fatal-occupational-injuries-table-a-9-2023.htm>
(3) OIICS = Occupational Injury Illness Classification System "The OIICS structure underwent a comprehensive revision in 2022 for implementation with data reference year 2023. A list of major changes that were implemented in that revision (OIICS 3.0) is available ([HTML](#)). Case characteristic data for 2023 are, therefore, a break in series with data for prior years. The latest update (OIICS 3.01) was issued in October, 2023." <https://www.bls.gov/iif/definitions/occupational-injuries-and-illnesses-classification-manual.htm#oiics3.0>

